HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO EVALUATE ITS RULES RELATING TO STATE BEACH PARKS TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING GREATER ACCESS FOR PERSONS ACCOMPANIED BY PET ANIMALS.

WHEREAS, access to lands within the State's jurisdiction, particularly beach parks, for pet animals and their owners is relatively limited; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources currently prohibits pet animals in most beach parks under the State's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, on certain islands within the State, there are no beach parks that allow access for pet animals; and

WHEREAS, owners of pet animals are not adequately considered as a class of user within state beach parks and it is necessary to reevaluate access to state lands in this case; and

WHEREAS, access for this class of user has been overlooked and unaddressed in the past, leaving pet owners with limited access to open public spaces where they may bring their pet animals; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to evaluate its rules relating to state beach parks to determine the feasibility of providing greater access for persons accompanied by pet animals; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to:

- (1) Identify state beach parks that may reasonably accommodate pet animals;
- (2) Determine which species of pet animals may be appropriately allowed within the state beach parks identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and
- (3) Consider other factors that the Department deems necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

OFFERED BY: Nivole E. Son

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